(c) the additional budget allocation proposed for Coast Guard for more men and machines required for patrolling the coast line to thwart Pak-activity and to guard against incursions?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) In the post Kargil scenario, the Coast Guard have deployed more ships and aircraft for intensive surveillance over the area of its responsibility to protect the maritime interest of the country.

(b) The budgetary allocations for Coast Guard have been increased during the last three years as would be evident from the following:—

Year	Actual Expenditure / RE
1998-1999	Rs. 265.9 crores
1999-2000	Rs. 343.6 crores
2000-2001	Rs. 415.0 crores (RE)

(c) The Coast Guard Development Plan for 2002—2007 will cater for induction of additional manpower, ships, aircraft and for setting up new Coast Guard stations for keeping constant vigil on the coast and preventing intrusions as also anti-national activities.

Induction of Agni-II

1183. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA:
SHRI SWARAJ KAUSHAL:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per the recent statement of the Scientific Advisor to the Defence Minister, the Agni-II is likely to be inducted into the Armed Forces by the end of 2001;

(b) whether this is a major strategic initiative which will add a completely new dimension to the balance of power in the region raising the level of confrontation to an unknown level of threat; and

(c) if so, what is Government's policy and strategy on this development and level of preparedness for it?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) With the second launch of Agni-II on 17th January, the stage of operationalisation has been achieved. The Government has decided to induct the system based on our security needs. Government policy and strategy on

development and deployment of missiles are consistent and decisions have been taken after careful considerations.

Grants by MoD to Government of Rajasthan

†1184. DR. MAHESH CHANDRA SHARMA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount provided by the Ministry of Defence to the Government of Rajasthan in the form of grants during the financial years 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 and the details of the items, programmes of projects and specific subjects for which the grants was provided; and

(b) whether the Government of Rajasthan has timely submitted the account of the amount so spent to the Government?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) An amount of Rs. 4 lakhs was sanctioned to the Government of Rajasthan in May 2000 for payment of compensation to the families of two civilians who died in the fire accidents which occurred at ammunition depot in Bharatpur in April 2000. The compensation was to be paid at the rate of Rs. 2 lakhs each to the legal heir of the deceased persons. This compensation has since been paid to the concerned persons. Another sanction for payment of an amount of Rs. 1 lakh was sanctioned to the Government of Rajasthan in January 2001 on account of compensation to be paid to the seven injured persons, including two seriously injured in the above mentioned fire accident. The two seriously injured persons were to be paid at the rate of Rs. 25,000/ - each while the remaining five injured persons were to be paid at the rate of Rs. 10,000/- each.

Thefts from the Inner Wheel Islands, Orissa

1185. DR. M. N. DAS: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during the last week of December, 2000 two most sophisticated Remote Control Cameras were stolen from the hundred-feet high towers of the Inner Wheel Islands near Dhamra in Orissa where defence experiments are supposed to be conducted;

(b) if so, whether the culprits have been arrested;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi